



Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs

Tony Evers, Governor | Mary M. Kolar, Secretary

August 10, 2020

Dear King Community:

As the coronavirus pandemic continues to spread in Wisconsin, we hope this letter finds you healthy.

Last week, I notified you that out of an abundance of caution we had tested and had moved four Members to the COVID-19 quarantine area who were exhibiting respiratory illness. Three of the Members who we had reported as quarantined tested negative for COVID-19. We will re-test each of them one more time to ensure those negatives were accurate before they can return to their rooms from the quarantine area.

Unfortunately, I am reporting today that we have confirmed that one of the quarantined Members and one other member have tested positive for coronavirus. Both live in Ainsworth Hall. In addition, one symptomatic staff member who works in Ainsworth Hall has tested positive. These are the first confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 among Members we've had here at King. We have directly notified the Members and the primary contacts by phone.

For five long months, we have successfully beat the odds and through our diligence and steadfast effort we have kept this disease out of our Home. Now our mission changes and we will work even harder to prevent its spread.

The following steps are being taken on campus, due to the Members' positive test results:

- Stordock Hall has been set up as a quarantine area.
- A very limited number of staff will work with Members who test positive or who may have coronavirus. These staff have been trained in infectious disease control and will be wearing the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) including N95 masks and face shields.
- Care will be coordinated with the Members' primary care physician.
- Staff will follow the guidance of the Centers for Disease Control and the Department of Health Services regarding contact tracing, additional testing, and quarantining others, as necessary.
- All Members and campus staff will be immediately re-tested for COVID-19.

The WDVA's goal is to be as transparent as possible. We always call a Member's primary contact when we need to provide time sensitive information or consult regarding COVID-19 pertaining to that Member. We post all updates/notification letters on our website; if you would like to share these notification letters with family members or look back on previous updates please go to – www.WisVetsHomesCOVID.com.

We understand that the presence of the virus at our Home is stressful. We want to assure you we are doing all we can to keep Members and staff healthy. That said, we are not immune from what is happening in the surrounding community. As always and perhaps more important than ever, for those who have served our country and those who support them, stay home whenever you can, wear a mask when you are out, stay at least six feet away from other people, and wash your hands frequently.

If you have any questions, I am happy to address them.

Sincerely,

Tammy Servatius

Tammy Servatius, Commandant